

agencies made all of these events trouble-free and enjoyed by all in the community. Additionally, under Ron's watch, St. Louis enjoyed a significant decline in crime—in every category. Finally, Ron undertook strong efforts to reach out and expand communication between the police department and community leaders and residents.

I have worked with Ron on a number of issues over the years. From reducing domestic violence in the community to putting more community police officers on the beat, Ron's first priority has always been to improve the lives of the people of St. Louis. His professionalism, commitment, and dedication truly exemplifies the meaning of public service.

Earlier this year, Ron was nominated to serve as U.S. Marshall for Eastern Missouri, and he is awaiting confirmation for that post. I know I speak for all St. Louis residents when I congratulate and thank him for his achievements as Chief of Police, and wish him all the best in his continued work on behalf of our region.

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**STROKES KILL TWICE AS MANY  
WOMEN AS BREAST CANCER**

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2001*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to focus attention on a serious health concern facing American women.

It is a little known fact that strokes, also referred to as brain attacks, kill twice as many women as breast cancer every year. In fact, 322,000 women will have a stroke this year. One hundred thousand of them are under the age of 65. Strokes kill more women than men. While women account for less than half of the strokes in this country, they account for almost two-thirds of stroke deaths.

Because more men survive strokes, women are more likely to become full-time caregivers for stroke survivors. Fifty-six percent of the caregivers in this country are women.

National Stroke Association, a national non-profit health organization devoting 100 percent of its resources to fight stroke, has launched a comprehensive public education campaign, "Women in Your Life" to teach American women and their loved ones that:

Strokes are preventable by paying attention to risk factors including high blood pressure, diabetes and smoking, and adopting a health lifestyle.

Strokes are treatable. Recognizing stroke symptoms and seeking immediate medical attention are crucial to receive effective treatment.

There is life after stroke. As either stroke survivors or caregivers, women need to embrace life with their loved ones after stroke.

I encourage my colleagues, of both genders, to give stroke education and awareness their serious consideration not only during this past month designated as National Stroke Awareness Month, but every month throughout the year. Understanding strokes and how they affect women is vital to the health and well-being of all the women in our lives.

**RESERVIST VA HOME LOAN  
FAIRNESS ACT OF 2001, H.R. 2095**

**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2001*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing The Reservist VA Home Loan Fairness Act of 2001. It is always appropriate for America to recognize the indispensable contribution the members of the Reserve Components make to this nation's total military force. By supporting The Reservist VA Home Loan Fairness Act of 2001, Congress will do more than simply state that "Reservists are full-partners in the Total Force"—Congress will recognize the contributions of Reservists in a tangible way by granting them access to VA home loans on the same footing and at the same funding fee schedule as active duty veterans. This is a basic fairness issue.

Since the Gulf War, America has called upon the Guard and Reserves at an ever-increasing rate. In the last five years, the utilization tempo of Reserve Component members has increased 13-fold from the tempo they maintained during the last five years of the 1980s. When called to duty, members of the Guard and Reserves leave home, family and job to enter harm's way. They are indistinguishable from their active duty counterparts in Bosnia, Korea, or in South West Asia. Yet, should these veterans apply for a VA Home Loan Guarantee, they are told that they must pay an additional three-quarters of one percent for the VA's Reservist-rate Funding Fee. They are the only group required to bear this added financial burden for VA Home Loans. Perhaps this is one reason that less than four percent of all home loans in FY 2000 were provided to Reservists. This disparity must end. The Guard and Reserves are full partners in America's Total Force.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to support the Reservist VA Home Loan Fairness Act of 2001. The cost in dollars is small, but the message you will send is large and powerful.

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**THE INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE MEDICAL NUTRITION  
THERAPY AMENDMENT ACT OF  
2001**

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2001*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with Representative ANNA ESCHOO and 55 other colleagues on both sides of the aisle today in introducing the Medicare Medical Nutrition Therapy Amendment Act of 2001. In the last Congress, we amended the Medicare program to provide coverage for medical nutrition therapy services provided by registered dietitians and nutrition professionals for persons with diabetes or renal disease. The legislation we are introducing today will add Medicare coverage for services for beneficiaries with cardiovascular disease.

Medical nutrition therapy provided by registered dietitians and nutrition professionals is sound health care policy. It can save millions

of dollars for a health care system beleaguered by escalating costs, and it can prevent unnecessary pain and suffering for millions of people and their families. In response to a request in the 1997 Balanced Budget Act, the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences studied the value of adding medical nutrition therapy services for Medicare beneficiaries and the Medicare program and issued a report recommending that this benefit be added to the program. The report stated that coverage for medical nutrition therapy will "improve the quality of care and is likely to be a valuable and efficient use of Medicare resources, because of the comparatively low treatment costs and ancillary benefits associated with nutrition therapy." The report concluded that nutrition therapy has proven effective in the "management and treatment of many chronic diseases that affect Medicare beneficiaries, including . . . hypertension, heart failure, diabetes, and chronic renal insufficiency."

I urge my colleagues who have not yet co-sponsored this bipartisan, sound health policy proposal to join us in this effort.

**BYRD R. BROWN**

**HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 7, 2001*

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe the passing of one of Pittsburgh's civil rights heroes. Byrd Rowlette Brown died in Pittsburgh on May 3rd, 2001.

Mr. Brown was born and raised in Pittsburgh. His parents were both active in Pittsburgh's African American community. His father, Homer S. Brown, was a state legislator and the first African American judge in Allegheny County, and his mother, Wilhelmina Byrd Brown, was an educator and civil rights activist.

Byrd Brown graduated from Schenley High School in Pittsburgh and won an academic scholarship to Yale University. Mr. Brown earned a Bachelor's degree and a law degree from Yale. He served in the Army after completing his education, and after his discharge he began practicing law in Pittsburgh.

In 1958, Mr. Brown was elected to the first of six two-year terms as president of the Pittsburgh NAACP. He was also one of the founders of the United Negro Protest Committee and the Black Construction Coalition. He worked successfully over the years to desegregate the local schools and eliminate discrimination in the employment practices of local corporations.

Mr. Brown was also a candidate in the Pittsburgh mayoral election of 1989, running on the slogan "Byrd's the word."

Byrd Brown was also active in a number of civic and legal organizations, including the National Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the American Bar Foundation, the Academy of Trial Lawyers, and the Pittsburgh Foundation.

With the death of Byrd Brown, Pittsburgh has lost a tireless civil rights crusader—a man who was dedicated to the fight for equality and the struggle for better race relations. I wish to extend my condolences to his family in their time of sadness and grief.